





# Maine Farmer.

August, Thursday, April 30, 1863.

Terms of the Maine Farmer.

\$2.25 per annum, or \$2.00 if paid within three months of date of subscription.

These terms will be rigidly adhered to in all cases.

All payments made by subscribers to the Farmer will be credited in accordance with our new mailing method.

The printed date upon the paper, in connection with the subscriber's name, will show the time to which he has paid, and will constitute, in all cases, a valid receipt for money remitted by him.

Notice.

Mr. H. P. Weeks will call upon subscribers in Waldo County.

Mr. Warren Fuller of Hallowell, will call upon subscribers in Eastern County.

Uncle Sam and his Daughters.

Our good, old, and indulgent "Uncle Sam," sometimes called by the English "Brother Jonathan," has a thriving and increasing family of daughters. They now number thirty-five—West Virginia having recently been added to the family.

He calls them his stars, and at the birth of a new one, he adds another star to the blue field of his escutcheon. Should he live and prosper, he will have to enlarge his field immensely to hold all the stars which he will have to add. We say, should he live and prosper. These are words indicative of doubt whether the old gentleman will continue his life and activity any length of time. We have no doubt he will, for he is yet young and vigorous, but although very good natured and indulgent to his children, there is now a *mus* in his family, which not only threatens to break up his housekeeping, but his own existence also.

Some of his girls, who he has heretofore humored most, and allowed them to have their own way, until, like most spoiled children, they became saucy, impudent and disobedient, are giving him sore trouble.

They have long been maturing, and scolding, and finding fault, because the old gentleman in deference to their doing a little something to help support the general expenses, and because he objected to their carrying their black servants into parts of his farm where they were neither needed nor wanted. From words they proceeded to blows, and after having robbed the house of a good deal of the money, and furniture and other property, and seized on a part of his ships and his real estate, declared themselves independent, and absolved from all paternal authority. This roused our worthy Uncle from his good natured slumbers—opened his eyes to the wicked ingratitude of these rebellious children, and induced him to put forth a pretty strong arm to bring them back into the family, and under the mild and salutary restraints of his household. He finds it not an easy and expensive job, for the fractious and disobedient girls seem to be all some of love, of justice or propriety, and are using the very property which they have robbed him of, and the strength they have for years derived from his fatherly care and protection to not only break up his family, but also to deprive him of his very existence. They will not succeed. Like the rebellion of Abolition against his kind and indulgent parent, it will come to an ignominious end, and then like King David of old, our kind and whole-souled Uncle will mourn over them and do all he can to heal their wounds and restore peace and harmony at the family hearth once more. A loving and great-hearted father is Uncle Sam.

To show how he is getting along, and how each child is prospering, he has been in the habit, every tenth year, of taking an account of his assets, called a census, by which certain facts are recorded and published for all to read. This is an interesting document. It proves two things: 1st, that those of his children who prefer to work with their own hands or with hired help, for which they pay liberally, instead of depending on slaves, are by far the most prosperous and increase fastest. 2d, it proves that these too, are the most quiet and obedient of all his children, and thereby seem to reap the blessings of a kind Providence as a reward for their filial and social virtues.

We find that during the decade from 1850 to 1860, the fifteen Slave States made an increase of 27.33 per cent.; of this per centage 23.44 were slaves, leaving the increase of freemen only 3.89 per cent.

In the nineteen Free States and seven territories during the same period of time, they made an increase of 41.24 per cent., all of which, of course, was an increase of free persons. The increase, says the Superintendent of the Census Bureau, is, in part, to the "larger number of immigrants who settle in the free section, on account of congeniality of climate, the variety of occupation, the dignity wherewith respectable employment is invested and the freedom of labor."

In regard to the density of population, or the increase of population to the square mile, it is seen that the Free States also have the advantage, the Northern and Middle States increasing in this respect 25 per cent., and the Northwestern States more than 100 per cent.

Grouping them together, we find that the New England States have to the square mile, 49.55 persons, or forty-nine to a half person to each square mile, which is 6.44 more than in 1850. Middle States, 69.83, which is 13.47 more to the mile than in 1850. The coast Slave States, 15.25, making an increase of only 3.82 during the last ten years. The central Slave States, 20.93, being an increase to the mile of 4.22. The Northwestern States, 22.14, increase, 11.22. The North. The increase of the Free over the Slave States in this respect, must also be attributable, as the above writer observes, to the "attractions of our institutions, the freedom of industry, the cheapness and fertility of the lands, and to the enjoyment and perfect guarantee of peace" during the period in question.

The First of the Season. Our dinner to-day was garnished with fresh lettuce and radishes from the green grocery of Mr. Joe Piper, on Water street. Friend Piper always leads the market in this line of business, supplying his customers with the earliest and freshest vegetables long before any body else seems to be aware that he is about. We give him credit for his thoughtfulness and enterprise.

Mr. Joel Spaulding of Centre Sidney is one of those thoughtful souls who know that a good thing never comes easily to the printer. He brought into our office on Monday last a supply of the largest and handsomest Baldwin's apples we have seen for many a day. They grew from seedlings obtained in Massachusetts by him, and are as sound and as good as any that were in winter.

Planting time is at hand and it will be for the interest of our farmer readers and others to consult the advertisements of the nurserymen, seedsmen and florists to be found in our columns. These dealers are too well known to need endorsement from us, but they have the good sense to advertise in the *Farmer*, and we take pleasure in calling attention to their business.

Western Virginia. Thirty-eight counties of the new State of Western Virginia have voted as follows for the amended Constitution: In favor, 28,321; against, 572. In the remaining ten counties no election was held, because, doubtless, of the presence or fear of the rebel force there. The election having been duly certified to President Lincoln, he has issued his proclamation declaring West Virginia to be a State in the Union.

## THE MAINE FARMER: AN

### The War News of the Week.

Although we have no event of transcendent military importance to chronicle in the war news of the past week, we are able to give our readers intelligence of a most cheering character in reference to the operations of our armies in various portions of the field.

The campaign of the Department of the Gulf, has been most auspiciously opened by Gen. Banks. On Wednesday last dispatches were received from New Orleans that the rebel forces of Gen. Sibley near Breach City in Opelousas County, La., had been so nearly hemmed in by the armies of Gen. Grover, Emory and Weitzel, as to compel the former to make a precipitate retreat, leaving his guns and ammunition behind him; at the same time the rebel Queen of the West, and the gunboat Diana, captured from us a few months ago, since used so effectively against us, were both destroyed—the first by a shell from a federal gunboat entering her magazine, and the latter by the enemy themselves to prevent her from falling into our hands. The captain and entire crew of the Queen of the West were taken prisoners.

Later accounts not only confirm the above report, but also bring the further intelligence that Gen. Banks' operations in the Opelousas region had been crowned thus far with complete success. A series of engagements had been fought, in all of which our troops had been completely victorious. In some of these and a famous salt mine had been captured, the rebels had been compelled to destroy ten steamboats to prevent their capture by us, and fifteen hundred prisoners taken. All this was accomplished with trifling loss on our part. The 12th and 20th Maine took part in the operations, and we cannot doubt with credit to themselves and the credit they represent. The success of Gen. Banks will have a most important bearing upon the final results of the campaign in the Southwest, and tend greatly to the advantage of Gen. Grant and Admiral Farragut in their combined efforts for the reduction or evacuation of Vicksburg and Port Hudson.

Indeed we cannot see why this most desirable result cannot soon be realized. Admiral Porter, at the very time when the successful movement of Gen. Banks was transpiring, ran the Vicksburg batteries with seven gunboats and three transports with the single exception of the loss of one transport—gallantly caught fire and destroyed—the fleet passed gallantly through the fire of the batteries, which lasted for over three hours. Since then six more transports, and several barges with ample supplies have reached the fleet.

The Mississippi is now blockaded at all points, and the rich supplies of corn from Arkansas and Texas, which were supplying the shorted rations of the rebel armies most effectually cut off.

A dispatch from Memphis dated on the 23d, says that the rebel batteries at Warren, below Vicksburg, were destroyed by our gunboats, and that the fleet was lying off Carthage, on the 17th. Gen. Grant had then his headquarters there.

With regard to contemplated movements in Tennessee very little is known with certainty. The report comes from reliable sources that Gen. Rosecrans is receiving reinforcements from Gen. Grant and that a great battle will come off soon. Our troops in the meantime have not been idle in Tennessee. The attack on McMinnville, and the capture of that place by Gen. Reynolds and Col. Wilder on Wednesday last, was a most brilliant affair. While Gen. Reynolds kept the enemy at bay outside the town, Colonel Wilder entered and took possession. Six bridges and an immense amount of property together with a rebel camp was destroyed and three wounded prisoners taken.

A recent expedition to Celina was also entirely successful. Our troops destroyed the town, one hundred thousand pounds of bacon, ten thousand bushels of wheat, ten thousand bushels of corn, one hundred barrels of whiskey, one hundred barrels of flour, a considerable quantity of sugar, coffee, tea, malt and other stores, and forty bales, which had been used in transporting goods from Brentsville and other points on the Cumberland. The rebels report a loss of ninety killed; but Colonel Graham, commander of the expedition, is of the opinion that the number is greater. We had one wounded and one missing.

The large rebel force under Longstreet who expected to capture Suffolk by a coup de main, seem to have given up the idea of the present. Since their attack upon the place, repeated three days in succession on the 19th, 20th and 21st inst. with such ill success, they have withdrawn to a safe distance. The rebel loss is estimated in the various engagements at eight to our one. Skirmishing among the outposts still goes on, and the rebel sharpshooters annoy our troops from houses in the vicinity, some of which have been stormed and burnt by our men.

The abandonment of the siege of Washington, N. C. after an ineffectual effort by a force of twenty thousand men, commanded by one of their most skillful Generals, to starve or frighten the gallant little garrison of only twelve hundred into a surrender, is confirmed. The siege lasted several days, at the end of which time the enemy were ordered to retreat. General Noyes made a brilliant dash upon the rear guard of the enemy as they were retreating in the direction of Greenville, on the 8th inst., completely scattering them, and taking several prisoners.

The history of this siege, showing the inexhaustible perseverance of Gen. Foster and his gallant handful of men, together with the brilliant achievement of running the rebel batteries by the 3d Rhode Island in an unarmed transport to the relief of the almost exhausted garrison, forms one of the most thrilling chapters of the war.

The attack on Charleston has not been renewed, although preparations are reported to be actively making for another and more formidable assault by the iron-clad fleet, aided by a powerful demonstration by land under Gen. Hunter. The monitors are all reported to be off Edisto in the vicinity of Charleston and our land forces occupying the island.

Gen. Hooker is still patiently awaiting the tardy improvement of the roads upon the Rappahannock. A violent north-east rain storm on Thursday last had indefinitely postponed the movement so long contemplated by him, and of which the rebels seem to have an early knowledge. The discovery of a submarine telegraph across the river, communicating with the rebel headquarters, and the arrest and prompt execution of the bold operators, it is hoped will enable Gen. Hooker to carry out his plans, before they are discovered and checked by the enemy.

Gov. Coburn in New York.—The New York Times of the 22d inst. says—Gov. Coburn, of Maine, accompanied by Hon. Charles Holden, of Portland, of the Executive Council, and Mrs. Moody of Sao, (the latter of whom has been ten months in the army hospital at the seat of war), visited the Maine soldiers to-day, at Fort Schuyler and David's Island. It is hinted that these visits are with reference to establishing a State hospital. Gov. Coburn and Councilman Holden leave for Washington to-night, and will visit the various Maine regiments in the field.

Gen. Tilton, of Rockland formerly of the 2d Maine battery, has been assigned to duty as Chief of Artillery, for the Department of Ohio, and has established his headquarters at Covington, Ky. He is charged with the organization and instruction of the garrisons, and completing the armament and outfit of the forts and permanent batteries of the Department.

Lt. Col. G. W. Dyer, aid-de-camp and private Secretary to Gov. Coburn, has received an appointment as Paymaster in the army.

## RAILROAD ACCIDENT.

The freight train of the Kennebec and Portland Railroad, met with a serious accident, very nearly attended with fatal results, on its way from Skowhegan to this city on Saturday morning last. The train was crossing the Seven Mile Brook bridge, and when the cars were within about fifty feet of the South end of the structure, the spreading of the track precipitated two rear cars a distance of sixteen feet, and piling them together a complete wreck. One was the passenger car, containing five or six persons, all of whom were more or less injured. Mr. Thos. F. Church of this city and his wife were among the number. The latter was severely and dangerously injured. A brakeman, Harvey Knight of Yarmouth received severe contusions on the hip and right knee which it is feared may permanently disable him. Two other freight cars were thrown off, but were not materially damaged. Upon receiving information of the accident Mr. Superintendent Cushman dispatched an engine and car from this city to the assistance of the disabled train. Dr. Paul Merrill and other gentlemen accompanying them to render assistance to the injured passengers. We are surprised to hear it stated that the bridge has for some time been regarded unsafe, and that representations to the effect have been made to the President of the Kennebec and Portland Railroad, but nothing was done to guard against such an accident as has occurred, and which might have resulted far more disastrously than it did. We hope, for the reputation of the road, that this statement may be authoritatively disproved. If true, such reckless trifling with the lives and limbs of the travelling community, should meet with the sternest and most effectual condemnation.

The Complimentary Concert to Carl Krebs, the celebrated pianist, given by the Citizens' Band at Memorial Hall on Friday evening last, was a very successful one. Both Herr Krebs and the Band have heretofore freely given their professional services in aid of charitable and patriotic objects, and it would have shown a just and generous appreciation of their labors on the part of our citizens to extend to them a liberal patronage on the occasion referred to. We hope the matter will be taken in hand by gentlemen of influence in the community, and with the co-operation of the ladies, who are never backward in good works, give the Band and its meritorious conductor, a substantial and popular acknowledgement of their services.

Rev. Mr. Brown, pastor of the Unitarian Society of this city, who for the past year has suffered from a severe lameness caused by spraining his foot, has been obliged to relinquish his pastoral labors for a season and place himself under the care of a skillful surgeon in New Bedford for treatment. His surgery has not yet brought him an unlimited furlough for the purpose, and he is continuing his salary until his lameness shall be cured and his health restored. The ladies of the parish have also presented their pastor with a purse of \$100 to assist in defraying the expenses of his surgical treatment.

The Holmes Opera Troupe. This celebrated English opera troupe are to give our citizens one of their most charming and pleasing performances on Friday evening next at Memorial Hall. The Philadelphia Press says that Miss Sallie Holman, the Prima Donna, is following close in the footsteps of the gifted Adeline Patti. Our exchanges everywhere speak in the highest terms of the Troupe, and we trust our citizens will extend to them encouraging patronage. The opera selected is the Child of the Regiment, a great favorite in all our local circles.

FOR THE SOLDIERS. The ladies aid society of this city last week, April 23d, forwarded a large box of Hospital stores to the Sanitary Commission, Boston, containing the following articles: 18 quilts, 31 pairs drawers, 23 cotton and 12 flannel shirts, 42 pairs woolen hose, 16 pairs shoes, 60 pocket-handkerchiefs, 6 neckerchiefs, 12 sheets, 6 pillow-cases, 4 pillows, 4 dressing-gowns, 1 shawl blanket, 23 yards of bandages, 20 pounds dried apples, 2 bottles wine, 2 jars jelly, 2 boxes mustard, 1 package corn starch, 30 testaments, 30 magazines, 11 prayer books, 6 packages tacks, 8 miscellaneous boxes.

THE WEATHER IN OLD TIMES. Rev. J. H. Ingraham of this city has furnished us with the following interesting memorandum extracted from the diary of the late Judge Cony, in which a record is given of the weather in the spring of the year 1829:

"March 7th, snow in woods estimated at five feet; 16th, 24th, below freezing point; 19th, 12 below 0; April 9th, P. M., heavy snow storm; 10th, nine below zero; 11th, hard frost; 12th, 14th, ground frozen, deep banks of snow in woods; May 6th, deep snow banks in gully on the south side of the hill on the west side; June 30th, noble crop of grass—potatoes in blossom."

ACCIDENT. The wife of Mr. Stephen J. Ballou, one of the publishers of the *Banner*, was thrown from her carriage on Water street on Friday afternoon last, striking violently upon her head. She was taken into the store of Messrs. Dorr and Craig where restoratives were applied and she so far recovered as to be able to be conveyed to the residence of Rev. Mr. Ballou. A serious injury to the brain was at first feared, but we are glad to learn that she is slowly recovering from the effects of the accident.

COL. LAKEMAN. We stated several weeks since on the authority of the *Levinston Journal*, that Col. Lakeman of the 3d Maine, had been placed in arrest for a violation of the army regulations. The *Hallowell Gazette* is informed that the arrest was a trifling affair, instigated by personal considerations in no way affecting his bravery or patriotism. The charges and specifications, as we are informed, were frivolous, and at once dismissed, and Col. Lakeman restored to his command.

The schools of the Village District in this city will commence the summer term on Monday next. The examination of scholars for admission into the Grammar and High Schools will take place on Friday and Saturday, May 1st and 2d. We understand that the examination will be rigidly conducted, and no candidate will be admitted to the schools without a thorough test of his attainments according to the standard prescribed.

The congregations of the First Baptist, Free Will Baptist and Methodist churches will unite in religious services appropriate to Fast Day, on Thursday morning. The meeting will be held at the Free Will Baptist church at the usual hour, and a discourse will be preached by Rev. C. F. Penny, pastor of the society. We understand that Fast Day services will also be held at the First Parish and Episcopal churches.

The Portland Press states that Chase and Townsend, two privates of the 7th Maine Regiment, who had been sentenced to hard labor and banishment to Fort Preble, as punishment for the offense of desertion, of which they were found guilty at the late general court martial convened in Portland, effected their escape from the fort last week.

A petition is in circulation among the taxpayers of the city, asking the city government to widen Water street, near Market Square, by removing portions of the stores occupied by J. M. Arthur and J. G. Adams. We hope the prayer of the petition will be granted.

The Maine cavalry regiment is stationed at Belle Plain Landing, some forty or fifty miles below Aquia Creek. The brigade to which this regiment is attached, is or was last week doing gait duty, and in the vicinity of Stafford Court House.

## AGRICULTURAL AND FAMILY NEWSPAPER.

### Editorial Table.

"SHOULDER STRAPS"—a novel of New York and the army of 1862. This is the title of a new work from the able and versatile pen of Mr. Henry Morford, one of the editors of the New York *Atlas*, and now in process of publication by T. B. Peterson & Brothers of Philadelphia. It will be issued some time in May. As indicated by its title, this book deals with the "stay-at-home volunteers," and handles them without gloves; but it deals with the army and the crisis in other relations, exhibits society in New York and recruiting discipline at the camps, with some of the strange social and criminal relations growing out of a period of civil war. Perhaps the points of strongest general interest, will be found in the struggle of Malvern Hill and the events accompanying the mysteries of secession houses in New York city, and the strange developments of the Ohio poisoning which prevails so extensively among the negroes and yet is so carefully hidden from general knowledge. The work is a strange one, and on a popular theme, beyond a question.

GOREY'S LADY'S BOOK for May, besides the large and beautiful color fashion plate for the month, contains five full length figures, the latest Parisian styles of head-dress, children's spring costumes, braiding and embroidery patterns, &c. Godey's Magazine, Philadelphia, publisher. Terms \$3 per annum.

THE ECCLESIASTICAL MAGAZINE for May, contains portraits of the Prince and Princess of Wales adorned by engraving by Perrine. Among the leading articles are Travels in Peru and India; The Jewish Church; its History, Geography and Poetry; Domestic Annals of Scotland; My First and Last Ballroom Ascent; History of Cotton; The Anti-quey of Man; Lady Courthope's Trap; The Shipwrecked Mariner's Treasure. W. H. Bidwell, 5 Beekman St., New York, Publisher and Editor. Terms \$5 per annum.

THE KNECKERCKER for May contains some articles of possible literary merit, but the magazine as a whole, under its present management shows a melancholy decadence from its former glory. Old Knick in his dotage isn't Old Knick in his prime.

OUR SICK SOLDIERS IN HOSPITAL. In a communication from Mr. Dill to Gov. Coburn, dated April 14th, he makes the following statement of the number of Maine soldiers sick in the army of the Potomac:

In the 2d and 5th Me. Batteries, in hospital April 7th, 4; off duty, in quarters, 17.

1st Me. Cavalry, in hospital April 7th, 19; off duty, in quarters 53; do. in Heywood hospital, 5.

7th Me. Infantry, in hospital, 10; off duty, in quarters, 29.

6th Me. Infantry, in hospital, April 8th, 11; off duty, in quarters, 35.

5th Me. Infantry, in hospital, 4; off duty, in quarters, 16.

4th Me. Infantry, in hospital April 9th, 9; off duty, in quarters, 24.

3rd Me. Infantry, in hospital, 8; off duty, and light duty, in quarters, 17.

19th Me. Infantry, in hospital April 12th, 31; off duty, in quarters, 65.

20th Me. Infantry, in hospital April 10th, 30; off duty, in quarters, 83.

The large number reported in the 20th Maine, is owing to the fact that some of the men were vaccinated for the small pox by mistake, and the disease spreading in a mild form among them in consequence of this mistake.

A good many logs were carried down the Kennebec during the frozen week past, but not so many as last year, and a half as many as last year. The *Wing of Monday*. That paper states that several boats on Stillwater branch were carried away on Tuesday night and Monday morning, and logs to the amount of two to two and a half millions of feet escaped into the Penobscot and passed by Bangor on Thursday. A portion of them will be picked up down river. The logs are mostly spruce and hemlock, and worth from \$15,000 to \$20,000.

The *Wing of Monday* also says:

"The boom at the 'Drew Dead Water' on Mattawamkeet stream, containing some ten million of logs, having been driven by the ice in the morning of Saturday, and were running down the river. It is believed they can be stopped at the boom at Argyle, as the high wind of Saturday has retarded their progress by blowing them into the shoals, so that the boom corporation will have time to bang their boom before the drive gets along."

GEN. DOW'S FINE.—The following statement by the Portland Press in reference to the fine recently imposed on Gen. Neal Dow, for the alleged seizure of certain articles belonging to a loyal citizen, puts a new face on the matter:

"It has been published in the papers that a New Orleans court had rendered judgment against Gen. Neal Dow in favor of Judge Johnson, for the seizure of a box of cigars, for taking out certain cigars and other property from the plantation of the said Johnson—such property having been taken by a company of soldiers, acting, as was alleged, under the orders of Gen. Dow. A private letter from a gentleman in no way connected with the implicated officer, says General Banks has annulled the judgment, having made it his business to see that the box was not vindicated by the highest representative of military authority in his department, and Mr. Johnson's claim for spoliation will have to be preferred against the Government and not against its servants."

THE 28th MAINE.—Seven companies are stationed at Donaldsonville, a little town situated on the bank of the Mississippi, 80 miles above New Orleans; while the other three are doing picket duty at Plaquemine, 30 miles above Donaldsonville. The health of the regiment is reported good. The hospital is entirely empty, with the exception of the Surgeon, Dr. Lake, and the Steward E. W. Erelth.

THE 28th MAINE.—Chaplain A. J. Bates of the 2d Maine, mentions in the *Bangor Whig* the recent death of John Higgins of Co. I, and Orville Webber of Co. B. It is a remarkable fact, he says, that these are the only two deaths from sickness alone, that have occurred in the regiment for more than seven months.

The Maine Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church commenced its thirty-ninth session in the City of Bangor, on Wednesday last, at 10 o'clock. The East Maine Conference commences its session in Rockland on Wednesday of the present week.

The Democratic State Committee have called a State Convention to be held in Portland on Thursday June 18th, to nominate a candidate for Governor.

Maj. Gen. Oliver O. Howard has been assigned to the command of the 11th army corps attached to Gen. Hooker's Army of the Potomac.

Lieut. Frank C. Davis of Farmington, who has repeatedly distinguished himself since the war commenced as a brave and efficient officer, and is now in the ranks, is his friends that he is confined in the Libby Prison at Richmond, Va. He was surprised and captured while on picket duty, after a gallant defence, the latter part of February.

The centennial anniversary of the settlement of Machias, Me., is to be celebrated on the 28th May. It is anticipated that Hon. George S. Hilliard of Boston, Prof. Hitchcock, Harris, and other natives of the old territory will be present and participate in the ceremonies.

The Maine cavalry regiment is stationed at Belle Plain Landing, some forty or fifty miles below Aquia Creek. The brigade to which this regiment is attached, is or was last week doing gait duty, and in the vicinity of Stafford Court House.

### THE PASSAGE OF THE VICKSBURG BATTERIES BY ADMIRAL PORTER.

ADMIRAL PORTER'S CORRESPONDENT of the New York *Times* writes from near Vicksburg on the 17th inst., giving an interesting account of the passage of the rebel batteries at Vicksburg by eight gunboats of the Federal fleet, on Thursday, under command of Admiral Porter. We give below the main incidents mentioned in the communication:

The idea of running a large force of gunboats past Vicksburg had been entertained for some time and its carrying out at present was intended to effect a double object; one of these was to operate against the smaller batteries on the river, and the other was to announce to Gen. Thomas that the Army of the Mississippi was alive, well and able to carry on more important operations, than digging unprofitable canals and exploring useless bayous.

Considering the fact, shown by experience, that single gunboats and wooden rams are useless, it was decided to employ the iron-clad fleet, and to make it formidable to attack, and capable of effective co-operation in defence. In order, also, that supplies might not be lacking, and means for crossing troops and guns, some transports, and some lighters, were sent down the river. And thus it came that on the night of the 16th, eight gunboats and three transports undertook to run the Vicksburg batteries, and met with a most successful result.

The gunboats selected were the Benton, (flag-ship), Admiral Porter, Captain Greer; Lafayette, Captain Henry Walke; Price, Captain Van Dusen; St. Louis, Captain Porter; Cincinnati, Captain Mead; Murphy; Pittsburgh, William Hoel; Missouri, Captain Porter; and the transports, Captain Shirr.

Of these gunboats all are iron-clad save the Missouri, and Cincinnati, and the latter is a powerful machine, and will be recognized as the veterans of many a hard-fought battle. The Price is a powerful wooden boat, this was captured from the rebels last June near Memphis, and is now under the command of a new crew comparatively; the former is a sort of monitor, with square towers on her bow and stern, and is propelled by both a screw and paddle; the latter is an iron-clad, and is propelled by a screw and paddle.

The transports selected were the Forest Queen (side wheel), Capt. Dan. Conway; Henry Clay (side wheel), commanded by her mate; Silver Star (side wheel), Capt. J. M. Miller.

After loading the holds of these vessels with all the supplies they could carry, cotton and hay was placed around their machinery sufficient to enable them to make a run of 70,000 pounds of sugar, and 500 gallons of molasses, and about 1000 slaves. They destroyed about twenty cotton gins, nearly the same number of corn mills, 500 hogs, 100 tons of fodder, and 700,000 bushels of corn.

Statistics of Religious Denominations in Maine. The following is a brief exhibit of the returns of several of the religious denominations in Maine for the year 1862:

The Baptists report 195 ministers, 276 churches, 20,514 members and 12,730 converts during the year.

The M. E. Church report 234 ministers, 1501 members, 1606 in connection with their Sunday Schools, and \$4329 contributed for benevolent purposes.

The Universalists report 43 ministers. The Unitarians 16 ministers. Roman Catholics are 40,000 in number. There are a few societies of Friends, and a few of Protestants and Wesleyan Methodists, and in some localities Christians and Adventists.

THE COURAGE OF THE CONTRABANDS.—A letter from Washington, N. C. giving an account of the siege of that place, says that in consequence of the weakness of the garrison, General Foster ordered a battalion of blacks to assist in the attack on the earthworks. The writer says there are no such enthusiastic soldiers in the department as they are. They begged the privilege of having guns in their hands, and of being sent to the front. They declared they would sell their lives as dear, and as they were sent to the front, they were met by the rebels, and they fought bravely, and they were successful in capturing the earthworks. They were met by the rebels, and they fought bravely, and they were successful in capturing the earthworks.

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**GALEAT ACHEMENT AT SUFFOLK.**  
WASHINGTON, April 21. The Secretary of the Navy has received the following:  
U. S. S. PORTER, MINNAPOTA, 20.  
Off Newport News, Virginia, April 20.  
Sir: I received the joint expedition conducted by Gen. Getty and Flag Lieut. Lamson, which captured the rebel battery at West Branch, containing four field pieces and 100 men. I am informed that great credit is due to Lieut. Lamson for the prominent part he took in planning and conducting this handsome affair. Gen. Getty held the battery last night, aided by the crew of his vessels. Yesterday the enemy unmasked a new and heavy battery situated on the head of West Branch, near Minnietown, and commanding the lower Naumond in the direction of Portsmouth. From this battery and from the sharpshooters on the left bank the Battery was sharply fired on yesterday, without receiving much damage.

I have the honor to be, sir, very respectfully yours,  
S. P. LEE, Act. Asst. Dir. of Artillery.  
Com. North American Blockading Squadron.  
Two hours and a half of the following graphs that the number of field pieces taken in the captured battery referred to above was five, and the exact number of prisoners 161; also that the crew of the Porter, and the crew of the other vessels mentioned in his previous dispatch, had been received, and the enemy was in retreat, and the army might act on a brigade.

**Fight with Rebel Cavalry in Missouri.**  
CHICAGO, Ill., April 22. A special dispatch from Memphis, dated 21st, says, on Saturday evening, a fight between the cavalry and a body of rebel cavalry took place near Memphis on a reconnaissance. When near Noyah the cavalry came upon a detachment of Noyah's rebel cavalry. A fight ensued, resulting in the capture of the rebels, killing 20, wounding 40 and capturing 80. The rebels fled in great confusion after the cavalry. After crossing the river, the rebels received reinforcements and the Federal force followed them.

The rebels were so severely handled that they did not attempt to follow. At Noyah the Federal force was reinforced by the 1st and 2nd Cavalry, and the 1st Cavalry moved to the Coldwater and attacked the rebels on the opposite side of that river. The fight lasted until sundown, and was continued chiefly to the infantry, as the cavalry could not be so successfully used as desired. Our loss is 5 killed and 15 wounded. Col. Bryant holds a strong position.

**The Passage of the Vicksburg Blockade.**  
CHICAGO, Ill., April 22. A special dispatch from Memphis to the Gazette gives the following particulars of the passage of the Vicksburg blockades:  
Seven gunboats and one ram (the one taken from the rebels), and the three transports, started on Thursday last to run the blockade. All went well until about two-thirds of the way down, when the transports were fired upon by the rebels. The transports were fired upon by the rebels. The transports were fired upon by the rebels. The transports were fired upon by the rebels.

General Green Clay, 250 cavalry, commencing a march from Knoxville, Tenn., to the north, and is expected to reach the city of Nashville, Tenn., in a few days. The rebels are expected to be defeated. The rebels are expected to be defeated. The rebels are expected to be defeated. The rebels are expected to be defeated.

**Foreign News.**  
FOUR DAYS LATER FROM EUROPE.  
The steamship Kanguroo and City of Baltimore from Liverpool, April 19th, arrived at New York on the 21st.

**Special Notices.**  
HOW TO MAKE \$5 A DAY.  
When all other efforts have failed.  
HODG & CO., 166 BROADWAY, New York, have just published One Hundred Valuable Secrets, containing the most valuable secrets of the world, and which will enable you to make \$5 a day, or more, without capital, in any city or village. Every one should possess these secrets. For the price of 25 cents, you will receive the whole. Send for your copy today. Address: HODG & CO., 166 BROADWAY, New York.

**Married.**  
In August, April 22nd, by the Rev. Mr. E. C. Partington, at the residence of Mr. W. H. Smith, in New York, Mr. J. H. Smith, of New York, and Miss M. H. Smith, of New York. The bride was attended by her mother, Mrs. J. H. Smith, and the groom by his father, Mr. J. H. Smith.

**Dead.**  
In August, April 22nd, at the residence of Mr. E. C. Partington, at the residence of Mr. W. H. Smith, in New York, Mr. J. H. Smith, of New York, and Miss M. H. Smith, of New York. The bride was attended by her mother, Mrs. J. H. Smith, and the groom by his father, Mr. J. H. Smith.

**THE CELEBRATED IMPORTER OF ENGLISH HORSES.**  
PRINCE ALBERT.  
This station is a dark Chestnut color, 10 years old, 15 hands high, with a good head, and a good body. He is a very good horse, and is a very good horse. He is a very good horse, and is a very good horse. He is a very good horse, and is a very good horse.

**THE PRIVATEER VIRGINIA.**  
The Manchester Guardian has the following: "A short time since four men, Quartermasters of the Green Coast, and who had been gunners in the British Army, were taken into custody by the British authorities. They were taken into custody by the British authorities. They were taken into custody by the British authorities. They were taken into custody by the British authorities."

**GRANITE BARRIERS.**  
STOCKHOLDERS' MEETING.  
A special meeting of the Stockholders of Granite Barrer, held at the residence of Mr. E. C. Partington, at the residence of Mr. W. H. Smith, in New York, Mr. J. H. Smith, of New York, and Miss M. H. Smith, of New York. The bride was attended by her mother, Mrs. J. H. Smith, and the groom by his father, Mr. J. H. Smith.

**NOTICE TO THE STOCKHOLDERS.**  
The undersigned hereby gives notice that he has this day given to his son, Mr. E. C. Partington, at the residence of Mr. W. H. Smith, in New York, Mr. J. H. Smith, of New York, and Miss M. H. Smith, of New York. The bride was attended by her mother, Mrs. J. H. Smith, and the groom by his father, Mr. J. H. Smith.

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